

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

**METHOD, SYSTEM AND PROGRAM PRODUCT THAT UTILIZE A HIERARCHICAL CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK TO MODEL AN ENVIRONMENT CONTAINING A COLLECTION OF ITEMS**

A method, system and program product for modeling an environment containing a collection of items are disclosed. In accordance with the method, an environmental hierarchy describing a model environment, a product catalog containing data describing a plurality of items that may be utilized to populate the modeled environment, and a configuration library containing data describing a spatial relationship between first and second items among the plurality of items in the product catalog are created. The modeled environment is then populated by storing, in a database, data representative of the spatial relationship between the environmental hierarchy and a collection of items including the first item.